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NMT 4

## Report to Himmler concerning reduced death rates and improved conditions in the concentration camps, and Himmler's reply

Re: Deaths in the concentration camps

30 September 1943

### AUTHORS

Oswald Pohl (Chief of WVHA (SS Econ. and Admin. Main Office); Lt. General Waffen SS)

Heinrich Himmler (Reichsfuehrer-SS and Chief of Police; Minister of Interior)

### DEFENDANT

Oswald Pohl

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### TRIAL ISSUE

Concentration camp system (administration, forced labor, abuse of inmates, secrecy)

Pages 1 to 7 included



TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1469-PS  
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Chief

30 September 1943

the SS Economic and Administrative  
Main Office

Berlin

H. Po/Ha.

Lichtenfelde-West  
Unter den Eichen #26-135

No. 933/43

Telephone: Local 76 52 61  
Long distance 76 51 61

Subject: Deaths in the concentration camps  
Reference: None  
Inclosures: 3

S e c r e t :

Reichsfuehrer SS

B e r l i n .

Reichsfuehrer:

Although in the month of December the mortality rate was still approximately 10 %, in January 1943 already it fell to 8% and continued to fall. This reduction in the mortality rate is due primarily to the fact that the hygienic measures which have long been demanded have now been carried out, at least to a large extent. Furthermore, it has been ordered in the field of nutrition that one third of the food raw and properly chopped be added, shortly before distribution, to the cooked food. Cooking too long has been avoided.

Supplementary ration of sauerkraut and similar foods have been issued.

In regard to clothing, it has been ordered that the prisoners may keep their coats on in the winter, insofar as their work permits.

Unnecessary prolongation of roll-calls has also been avoided.

Permitting prisoners to receive food shipments individually has had a favorable effect.

The experiments with the distribution of yeast preparation were also so favorable.

The above measures were aided by the fact that selected prisoners were incorporated in a special cooking course in the training kitchen at Dachau. It is intended to conduct a new cooking course



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the training kitchen at Dachau. it is intended to conduct a new cooking course in the near future.

tables are enclosed:

1.) Comparison of deaths in the second half of 1942 with the first half of 1943 this comparison shows that the over-all average of the second half of 1942 was 9.89 % while the overall average of the first half of 1943 was only 5.72%.

2.) Death in the month of August, 1943.

Since January 1943 the death rate has fallen steadily, so that in the month of August it was only 2.09%.

A graph is also enclosed, illustrating the figures for the Sachsenhausen concentration camp extremely well, Sachsenhausen contains 26,500 people - 194 - deaths or 0.73% Similar graphs could be obtained for all the camps. Although, when bad weather begins, an increase in the death rate must be expected, it is nevertheless certain that it will no longer exceed 5 or 6%.

In Stutthof, also, the death rate for the month of August 1943 fell to 3.45% while in the previous month it was 5.69%. Only in the Lublin concentration camp did the percentage figures rise again by 1 or 3%. It is to be expected that when the planned hygienic measures are carried out the mortality figures here will also no longer differ from those elsewhere.

Heil Hitler

(signed) Pohl

SS Obergruppenfuhrer

(stamp:)

received 4 Oct. 1943

30/133/43g



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FIELD COM AND POST, 19 Oct. 19--

(stamp) Personal staff of Reichsfuehrer SS

The Reichsfuehrer SS

Journal No. 53/133/43g

RF/Bn

Document administration

No Secret 64

Re: Deaths in the concentration camps.

Reference: Your letter of 30 Sept. 1943 - Ch./Po/Ha/-S No. 933/

SECRET

Dear P o h l :

I received your report of 30 September 1943 concerning death in the concentration camps and can only more express to you and your co-workers my thanks and my gratitude for the result achieved. I am convinced that the latest difficulties will also decrease to the extent in which sewerage and better sanitary installations are possible.

Heil Hitler :

Your

(signed) (illegible)



(cont'd)

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8-4

SS Economic and Administrative Main Office

Office D/III

Enclosure II

Deaths for the Month of August 1943.

(stamp):

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Reichsfuehrer SS  
Document administration  
No. Secret 64

Concentration camp	Average no. of inmates	Deaths	%	% previous month	plus minus
Dachau	17,300	40	0.23	0.32	0.09
Sachsenhausen	26,500	194	0.73	0.78	0.05
Buchenwald	17,600	118	0.67	1.22	0.55
Leuthausen/Gusen	21,100	290	1.37	1.61	0.24
Flossenburg	4,800	155	3.23	3.27	0.04
Neuengamme	9,800	150	1.53	2.14	0.61
Auschwitz/men	48,000	1442	3.00	2.96	0.04
Auschwitz/women	26,000	938	3.61	5.15	1.54
Gross-Rosen	5,000	76	1.52	2.69	1.17
Natzweiler	2,200	41	1.87	1.63	0.24
Bergen-Belsen	3,300	4	0.12	0.39	0.27
Stutthof-men	3,800	231	3.45	5.69	2.24
Stutthof-women	500	1	0.20	-	0.20
Lublin-men	11,500	882	7.67	4.62	3.05
Lublin- women	3,900	172	4.41	2.01	2.40
Ravensbrueck-men	3,100	26	0.84	0.76	0.08
Ravensbrueck-women	14,100	38	0.27	0.24	0.03
iga	3,000	1	0.03	0.33	0.30
Herzogenbusch	2,500	-	-	-	-

Total

224,0504699

Over-all average for August 1943 2.09%

Over-all average for July 1943 2.23%Result - 0.14%



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(stamp)

Personal staff of the Reichs-  
fuhrer SS Document AdministrationSS Economic and Administrative  
Main Office

Office D/III

No. Secret 64

Comparison of Deaths in the Concentration Camp, second half of  
1942 and first half of 1943

1942				1943			
<u>Month</u>	<u>Average no of Inmates</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Average no. of Inmates</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>%</u>
July	98.000	8.329	8.50	January	123.000	9.839	8
August	115.000	12.217	10.62	February	143.400	11.650	8.
September	110.000	11,206	10.19	March	154.200	12.112	7
October	85,800	8.856	10.32	April	171.000	8.358	4
November	83.500	8.095	9.69	May	203.000	5.700	2
Dezember	88.000	8.800	10.--	June	199.500	5.650	2
<u>over-all average 96.770</u>				<u>or 9.89% Over-all average 165.600 or</u>			
				<u>5.72%</u>			

Oranienburg, 22 September 1943



TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1469-PS  
(cont.)  
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Mortality Rate in the Shi Concentration  
Camp 1940-1943

(stamp):

The Directing Doctor  
with the Inspector of Concentration  
Camps  
Received 25 -- 1943

(translator's note: This document consists of a chart showing the number of inmates number of deaths, and percentage of death in the concentration camp from the first of January 1940<sup>to</sup> /the first of September 1943. The number of inmates rose from zero at the beginning of January 1940 to 12,280 the first of February 1940. From then on it remained fairly constant until the first of May 1942, when it was 9264. From there it rose steadily to 26,253 the first of September 1943.

The number of deaths was zero the first of January 1940, 680 the first of February 1940, then fell to 95 the first of October 1940. It remained fairly low, falling to 32 the first of August 1941. From 34 the first of October 1941 it rose gradually to 771 the first of April 1942, then fell rapidly to 191 the first of September 1943.

The death rate fell from a high of 5.53 % the first of February 1940 to 0.77% the first of October 1940. It rose to 1.44% the first of January 1941, fell again to a low of 0.29 the first of July 1941 and 0.28 the first of August 1941. From 0.30 the first of October 1941 it rose rapidly to 4.39 the first of April 1942. Then it fell to 1.87 the first of July 1942, was fairly irregular, fluctuating between 3.62 the first of November 1942 and 2.25 the first of February 1943. From 344 the first of April 1943 it fell rapidly to 0.73 the first of September 1943.

The Senia camp doctor: (signed)  
(illegible)

SS (obersturmbannfuhrer?)



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I, Hans LAMM, B 263 733, herewith certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No 1469-PS.

18. October 1946

HANS LAMM

B-263733